

kansas state collegian

www.kstatecollegian.com

tuesday, february 22, 2011

vol. 116 | no. 102

Trio films music video
page 6



Tomorrow:
High: 55 F
Low: 31 F



Thursday:
High: 33 F
Low: 24 F

03

Last Manhattan meet
See how K-State track and field performed at their last home meet on Friday.

04

Financial interest
David Rose argues that the GOP is too concerned with keeping Koch brothers happy.



Backstage Pass
Go behind the scenes of the new Black and Purple video at www.kstatecollegian.com

Tax season approaches

Updated address, right form very important

Sam Diederich
news editor

There are two certainties in life, death and taxes. Maybe one more certainty would be the confusion inflicted upon college students and young adults during their first attempts at filing for tax returns.

"It's frustrating just because the forms are really confusing," said Matt Janssen, sophomore in computer science.

Anthony Lang, student, also files his own tax returns, but he prefers to use a tax service to avoid mistakes.

"My mom is an accountant, so she taught me how to do it," Lang said. "Turbo Tax does it for me, so it's not that hard."

Tax services like Turbo Tax can help to accelerate the filing process, but students filing their own taxes for the first time can still make some costly mistakes, said Tom Eyestone, franchise owner of a Manhattan H&R Block.

"You really need to prepare for it all year long to a degree," Eyestone said. "You need to have your W-2s and other payment documents in order that you receive from employers."

Eyestone said a common mistake for students occurs even before tax season begins.

"One of the important things is to make sure you have an up-to-date address so that when they send the W-2 out to you in January, they get it to you," Eyestone said. "I would probably just recommend using your parents' home address."

As tax season approaches, services like H&R Block and Turbo Tax begin to become flooded with tax payers in need of guidance. Eyestone had simple advice for all people currently preparing for the upcoming tax rush.

"They need to bring all income documents. That includes W-2s, and any savings account that they get interest off of," Eyestone said.

Taxpayers may also choose to file their own taxes without the help of a business. Websites like www.irs.gov and ksrevenue.org can provide useful information on tax forms, protocol and payment options.

"People can do it online," Eyestone said. "If they are doing this for themselves they may have to research for two to three hours. It just depends on how proficient you are."

This year's tax deadline is April 18. Students have to file a federal return for income tax if their parents are supporting them and they make more than \$9,350. Any Kansas resident supported by their parents needs to file for the income tax if they make more than \$5,250. Workers earning less than those dollar amounts may be eligible for refunds.

In addition to simple income tax procedures, students also need to pay attention to potential tax credits and deductions, Eyestone said.

"There is what is called an American Opportunity Tax Credit which is a credit that you can get up to \$2,500 on your taxes," Eyestone said. "A Lifetime Learning Credit gives up to \$2,000 on reductions or credits to your taxes."

Students are also eligible for credits and deductions if they are paying off student loans or other school expenses, but Eyestone pointed out that not all students would be eligible for tax deductions. Each credit has particular qualifiers and requirements, and a student working alone may need to do research on which deductions are allowable.

"I would think somebody with just W-2s could do their own tax returns online if they are willing to do some studying on their own, but they run the risk of missing deductions," Eyestone said.



Photos by Anthony Drath | Collegian

Above: Vincent Pigno, graduate student in math, break dances Monday night in the K-State Student Union as a part of the Multicultural Fair.

Top Left: Pharamond Guice, student services coordinator for the Upward Bound Program, does the "Cupid Shuffle."

Top Right: Isaiah Choma, 6-year-old Manhattan resident, break dances during the Multicultural Fair.

College recycling competition begins to heat up

Annual event helps to raise awareness of the green movement

Sam Diederich
news editor

If upcoming March Madness basketball isn't enough to satisfy students, they can seek to satiate their competitive drive in this year's Recyclemania competition.

This year, 300 universities from the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Qatar are participating in the competition, which ranks schools based on their recyclables per capita, the percentage of total waste collected that is recycled, the least amount of trash per capita and collective recycling totals. The rankings for the second week of competition have not been released, but K-State ranked No. 202 after the first week's totals. In comparison, the University of Kansas finished the first week ranked No. 230.

Joe Myers, physical plant supervisor in facilities, said that while competition can be motivating, it is not the primary purpose of Recyclemania.

"It's good to come out ahead, but that's not really the goal," Myers said. "It's really just to give you an idea of where you are in the scheme of things."

The competition, which



began Feb. 6, will continue until April 2, and Myers hopes that the university's recycling efforts will pick up momentum as time passes.

"I think we are steadily in-

creasing. There seems to be more interest in it," Myers said. "They are just now bringing the dorms online, and I think that will make a big difference in it all."

RECYCLEMANIA TOTALS

Week One K-State recycled:

K-State recycled 22,552 pounds of material from 109,952 pounds of collected waste materials, a recycling rate of about 20 percent. That ranks K-State No. 202 out of 300 participating schools. The University of Kansas ranked No. 230.

Weekly Total of 21,596 pounds of recycled material from 101,220 pounds of collected waste, a recycling rate of 17 percent for week two. No standings are available yet.

Ben Champion, director of sustainability, wants to use the competition to increase the university's recycling rate. In the first two weeks of competition, the recycling rate has hovered around 20 percent.

"I think we could shoot for 25 percent. That would be a substantial improvement over what we've been doing," Champion said. "I know KU is right around what we are doing, so maybe one of the things we can do is shoot to beat KU."

Students and faculty interested in getting involved can do so with ease, Champion said.

"It's really as simple as recycling," Champion said. "Every bit that we recycle goes towards our competition total, and with

Recyclemania, we have put out additional bins around campus. You can find those spread all over in metal racks and big blue containers."

Recycling has become a focus on campus in recent months with the planned construction of an expanded recycling center and a revised recycling program in the residence halls. Despite the additions, Myers said the university needs to continue to look for ways to improve recycling efforts.

"I think K-State has a ways to go. Some universities recycle up to 80 percent of their waste," Myers said. "We are down around 20 percent, but that's up from last year so we are headed in the right direction."

7AM- 10PM

BREAKFAST • APPETIZERS • LUNCH • DINNER • DESSERTS • BEVERAGES

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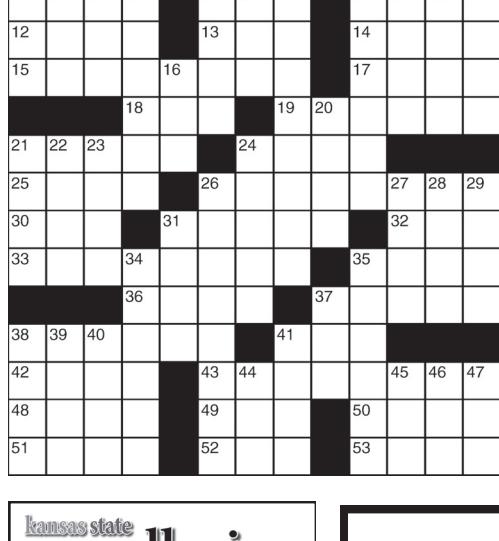
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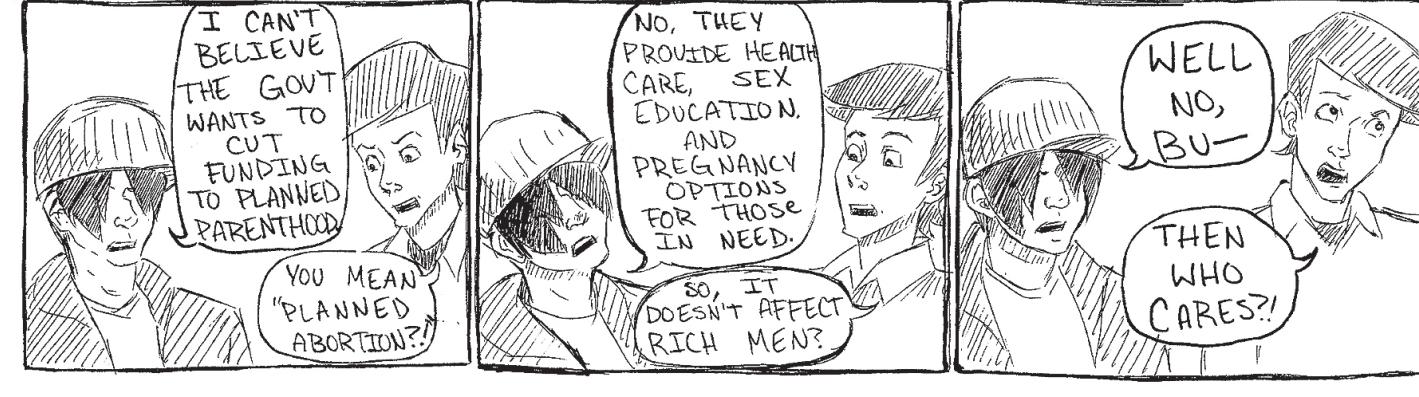
ACROSS	35	"Animal House"	DOWN	23	Intend
1 St. Louis team	36	Taverns	1 Edge	24	Barbarians
5 Lingerie item	37	Run off to wed	2 Commotion	26	Knotted fringes
8 Tubular pasta	38	Tropical fruit	3 Chaps	27	Franc replacement
12 Concept	39	Run off to wed	4 Pasta toppings	28	Now, on a memo
13 Chow down	40	Grand-scale tale	5 Gridlock sound	29	Tardy
14 Paradise	41	One-track transport	6 Operated	30	Unravel
15 Historically significant symbol	42	Not working	7 Lawyer	31	Old calculator
17 Blueprint	43	calculator	8 Gentle breeze	34	Ornate, as prose
18 Police officer	44	buzzword	9 Not working	35	37 Id
19 Yellow-brown colors	45	barterer	10 Rip	38	counterpart
21 Black plus white	46	Prior night	11 Hostels	39	Juror, in theory
24 Portion of N.A.	47	Sorts	16 Cattle call	40	Church section
32 Kingdom	48	Umps	20 Eliot-based musical	41	Chanteuse Edith
	49	Spotted	21 Sci-ly" card	42	From the beginning
	50	"Monopoly"	22 Car	43	44 Eggs
	51			44	Hearty brew
	52			45	Eisenhower
	53			46	1960s hallucinogen
				47	
					Solution time: 21 mins.
					Yesterday's answer 2-22



Solution time: 21 mins.

Yesterday's answer 2-22

Logan's Run | By Erin Logan



2-22

CRYPTOQUIP

E P C F O H H B K E T D H D O E L
C K K L A Y H P A K U L S Z E B U
C I A D S , E ' G L C V S Z H V Y E F Z S

I H T D E S H C I L E B S Z H - Y E B G H G .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: EVENT IN WHICH RACEHORSES HAVE TO LEAP OVER A FEW SMALL METAL FASTENERS: A STAPLE-CHASE.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: G equals D

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CORRECTIONS

If you see something that should be corrected or clarified, please call our editor-in-chief, Tim Schrag, at 785-532-6556, or e-mail him at news@spub.ksu.edu.

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When you're done reading all the articles, don't forget to waste more time in lecture

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TUESDAY SPECIALS

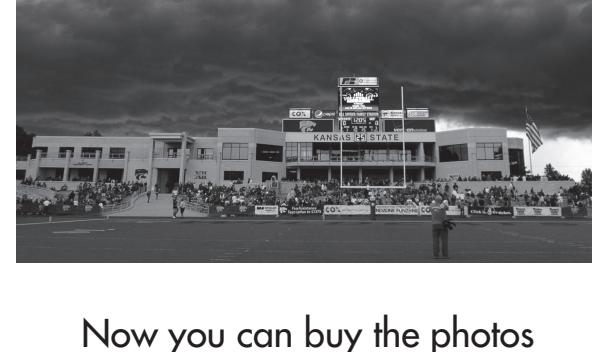
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kansas state collegian

CES Presents...

Walk-in Wednesday

Drop by to have your resume reviewed or to ask a quick question.

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* 12 pm to 4 pm

* Holtz Hall

Career Closet

Save your green and go green. Check out our closet of gently used professional attire for upcoming career fairs and interviews. Men and women, all sizes. Shop for free but monetary donations accepted with all proceeds benefiting the Manhattan Emergency Shelter.

* Wed. Feb. 23, 12 pm to 4 pm

* Holtz Hall

Resume Critique

Stop by to get your resume ready for the spring career fairs and upcoming interviews.

* Fri. Feb. 25, 11 am to 1 pm

* Holtz Hall

Non-Profit Employer Panel

Meet with local non-profit employers to learn more about part-time, volunteer and internship opportunities.

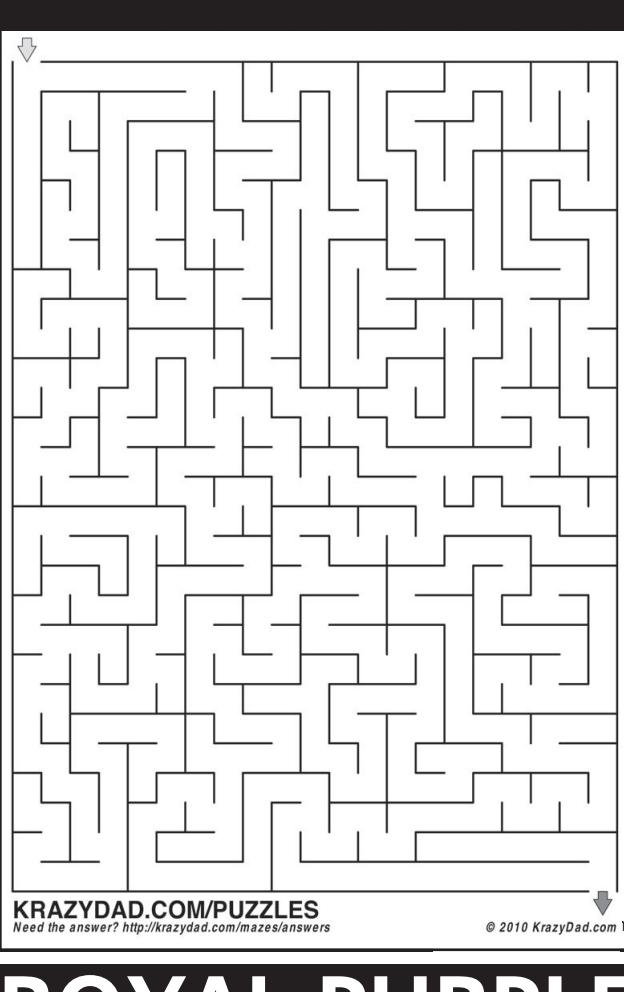
* Tues. March 1, 3 pm

* Big 12 Room, Union 2nd floor

Guiding You from College to Career

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k-state evening | spring 2011

March 14 - May 6, 2011 8-week term

MONDAY/WEDNESDAY	History of the United States Since 1877	Europe Since World War II	Introduction to Women's Studies
Arabic II	HIST 252	HIST 574	WOMST 105
ARAB 182	16232	16072	15278
15272	8:05-10:30 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.
5:30-8:30 p.m.			
Public Speaking I	College Algebra	General Calculus and Linear Algebra	TUESDAY/THURSDAY/ SATURDAY
COMM 106	MATH 100	MATH 205	Introduction to Information Technology
15845	15510	15120	CIS 101
5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	15138
			5:30-7:55 p.m. TU
Public Speaking II	The Psychology of Power	Introduction to Moral Philosophy	8:30-10:30 a.m. Sat. March 15-April 2
COMM 321	PSYCH 599	PHILO 130	
15843	16049	16243	
8:05-10:30 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	
Feminist Practice/ Applied Non-Violence	Police and Society	United States Politics	Introduction to Microcomputer Spreadsheet Applications
DAS 590	SOCIO 362	POLSC 325	CIS 102
15861	16210	15348	15137
5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m. TU
Intermediate Microeconomics	Fld/Women's Studies	General Psychology	8:30-10:30 a.m. Sat. April 5-14
ECON 520	WOMST 590	PSYCH 110	
15816	15953	15996	
5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	
Expository Writing II	Intermediate Macroeconomics	Introduction to Social Interaction	Introduction to Microcomputer Database Applications
ENGL 200	ACCTG 241	SOCIO 450	CIS 103
15819	15186	16208	15139
5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m.	5:30-7:55 p.m. TU
Earth through Time	GEOL 102	Introduction to Social Interaction	8:30-10:30 a.m. Sat. April 16-26
	15821	SOCIO 450	
	5:30-7:55 p.m.	16208	
		5:30-7:55 p.m.	
Intermediate Macroeconomics	ECON 510	Introduction to Social Interaction	Introduction to Microcomputer Word Processing Applications
	15814	SOCIO 450	CIS 104
	5:30-7:55 p.m.	16208	15140
		5:30	

tuesday, february 22, 2011

kansas state collegian

WILDCAT GOLD

Baker jumps over record in 60 meter hurdles at the KSU Open

Justin Nutter

sports editor

Even with most of K-State's top athletes not in action, the Wildcats still managed to make some noise in their final regular season meet.

Senior hurdler Denise

Baker continued her consistent improvement this season, capturing a first place finish in the women's 60-meter hurdles and breaking the meet record at the KSU Open at Ahearn Field House on Friday. Baker, who is in her fifth and final year as a

Wildcat, dominated the competition in the event, crossing the finish line in 8.32 seconds – just .02 seconds faster than the meet record set by Lisi Maurer in 2006.

"(Baker) started off her first race this season a couple tenths faster than her first race of the preceding year," head coach Cliff Rovello said. "Almost every weekend has been a similar type of progression throughout the whole season. You just don't see that very often, especially from someone who's in their fifth year. I can't say enough."

While Baker may have stolen the show, several other Wildcats earned first-place finishes at the one-day meet. In men's action, Ben Love finished first in the 400-meter dash with a time of 49.29 seconds, while Jeffrey Julmis won the 60-meter hurdles with a time of 7.83 seconds. In women's competition, Kim Haberman won the long jump with a leap of 5.67 meters, and Mercedes Perry brought home an event title in the 400-meter, crossing the finish line in 1:00.77.

The Wildcats enjoyed a particularly solid day in the women's weight throw, where they swept the top three spots. The trio of Chelsie Bonds, Ali Pistora and Jessica Carter all recorded throws of well over 17 meters to finish first, second and third, respectively.

"I think the kids in the weight all threw solid," Rovello said. "Some of them threw a little bit better than others, but they all threw solid. I think it was a good weekend for them, going into the conference meet."

Though they didn't win their events, Rovello said he was also particularly im-



Photos by Anthony Drath | Collegian

Senior sprinter, Jason Coniglio sprints toward the finish line in the men's 60 meter dash Friday afternoon in Ahearn Fieldhouse. Coniglio placed second in the men's 60 meter dash with a time of 6.87 seconds.

pressed by Jason Coniglio and J.J. Marshall, who ran in the men's 60-meter dash. Coniglio finished third with a time of 6.93 seconds, while Marshall was just .01 seconds slower and finished fourth. Rovello said their recent improvement is encouraging, especially since he'll count on them to perform well during the outdoor campaign.

"I think Coniglio and

Marshall in the 60, both of them ran almost a tenth of a second faster than what they've run previously," he said. "I thought that was good. Those are guys that are going to be a major part of our 4x1 relay outdoors, so taking that next step is significant, because I think that relay could be very, very good."

The Wildcats will be back

in action on Friday when they head to Lincoln, Neb., for the Big 12 indoor championships. The two-day meet, which will take place at Nebraska's Bob Devaney Sports Center, will begin at 10:30 a.m. with the 60-meter hurdles portion of the women's pentathlon. Individual running events will begin at 2 p.m. and field events will follow at 3:30 p.m.

First games set season tempo



Sean Frye

the season, is for real. They overcame so many obstacles just to win at all against Pacific, let alone sweep them. The sweep marked only the second time in school history that the Wildcats opened the season with a sweep of an opponent on the road, with the first one occurring in 1959. It also marked the Wildcats first 3-0 start since 2007.

I have covered this team multiple times already during the preseason, and one thing I noticed was how poised they were. They have great leadership from both the coaching staff and the players. I noticed this not only in the answers they gave me to my questions, but also through my observations of how the team acted during practices. The camaraderie is obvious, and the team chemistry is at a high level. This team has the potential to do big things this season.

One of the obstacles they overcame this preseason was the weather. With all the snow Manhattan saw this winter, the team was forced to practice indoors longer than expected. In fact, they

were only able to hit the field for outdoor practice less than a week prior to their departure towards Stockton, California for the season opening series against Pacific, a team that has been practicing outside in California weather for the past month.

Nevertheless, the team rose to the challenge and may have even surprised themselves about by sweeping the Tigers. Regardless, head coach Brad Hill, who has proven to be charismatic and a great leader in his tenure here at K-State, must be happy. He stated during my interview with him last Tuesday, just four days before their first game against the Tigers, that the most important games would be the first ones; to establish a tempo within the team and to set the tone for the season. Well, for now at least, the tone going into the team's four-game trip to South Carolina will be that of an undefeated one. They'll play four different teams; Coastal Carolina on Thursday, Western Kentucky on Friday, a rematch with Pacific on Saturday and then California on Sunday. This four-game showcase gives the Wildcats an excellent opportunity to show the country that they are for real, and that they deserve to be mentioned among K-State's best athletic programs.

Sean Frye is a freshman in pre-journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to sports@spub.ksu.edu.



Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Women's basketball

at Baylor

7 p.m. in Waco, Texas

Men's basketball

at Nebraska

8 p.m. in Lincoln, Neb.

Thursday

Baseball

vs. Coastal Carolina

3 p.m. in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Friday

Track and field

at Big 12 Indoor Championships

All day in Lincoln, Neb.

Baseball

vs. Western Kentucky

1 p.m. in Conway, S.C.

Saturday

Equestrian

vs. Texas A&M

All day in Manhattan**Men's basketball**

vs. Missouri

11 a.m. at Bramlage Coliseum

Baseball

vs. Pacific

12:30 p.m. in Conway, S.C.

Women's basketball

vs. Iowa State

7 p.m. at Bramlage Coliseum

Track and field

at Big 12 Indoor Championships

Sunday

Women's golf

at Sir Pizza Cards Challenge

All day in Weston, Fla. (season opener)**Baseball**

vs. California

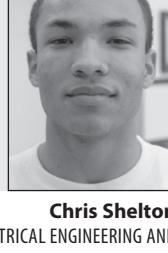
10 a.m. in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

K-State Athletic Schedule: Feb. 22-27

STREET TALK

Is voting in SGA elections worth it? Why or why not?

"I didn't even know the elections existed. I thought SGA was just another student group."



Chris Shelton
FRESHMAN IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND PRE-LAW

"Yes, it is. SGA handles your money and if you want your money spent wisely you have to vote in the right people."



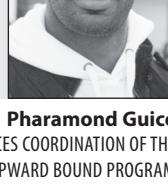
Tyrone Williams
JUNIOR IN DANCE, BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, AND SOCIAL ECONOMICS

"I have no idea what SGA is."



Jacar Union
SOPHOMORE IN ACCOUNTING

"Yes, who you put in office determines how your student funds will be spent."



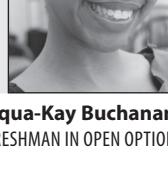
Pharamond Guice
STUDENT SERVICES COORDINATION OF THE UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

"Yes, it is. I regret not voting. It gives students a chance to have a voice. It's defiantly worth it."



Suave Wesson
SENIOR IN PSYCHOLOGY

"Yes, because every vote counts."



Tanniqua-Kay Buchanan
FRESHMAN IN OPEN OPTION

"Yes, because it has big impact on the students and the university."



Jessica Rodriguez
SENIOR IN FOOD SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

"Most definitely yes. You vote online and it only takes a few seconds. Why not make a difference?"



Megan DeForce
JUNIOR IN MATH EDUCATION

"Yes because they are in charge of making all the basic decisions for departments and you need the right people in leadership positions in order to get the people in the department what they need."



Alexis Kimmi
SENIOR IN FAMILY STUDIES AND HUMAN SERVICES

OUT OF HOPE

Voters not happy with unmet campaign promises



Ian Huyett

People are often surprised to hear that I voted for Barack Obama in 2008. Obama and McCain, however, had nearly identical policies on the environment, the drug war, gay marriage, Israel, immigration and Iran. I decided on Obama after I heard the candidates' differing stances on the War in Iraq.

McCain infamously remarked that he'd be willing to "maintain a presence" in Iraq for 100 years. In contrast, then-Senator Obama said on Oct. 27, 2007, "I will promise you this. If we have not gotten our troops out by the time I am president, it is the first thing I will do. I will get our troops home. We will bring an end to this war." He gave us a withdrawal date of about 16 months and insisted "we will not have permanent bases there."

The website obamabodycount.org reports that, since Obama's election, our bloody and futile occupation of Iraq has claimed the lives of roughly 10,000 Iraqi civilians and hundreds of American soldiers. In fact, President Obama's stated plan is the opposite of candidate Obama's promise: 50,000 troops consigned to remain indefinitely on permanent bases. He might as well have said "gotcha" at his inauguration. At least McCain's "100 years" promise was honest.

Interestingly, Obama's base doesn't seem to care that he said one thing and did another. A study by Heaney and Rojas found that attendance at anti-war protests has declined by more than 90 percent since Obama took office. Quinnipiac Polls show that in 2010, 78 percent of Democrats said they approved of U.S. policy in Iraq, compared with only 22 percent in 2003. That means that more than 50 percent of Democrats either never had a principled stance against the war or, more disturbingly, reversed their position because of one man.

Have Republicans similarly changed their position? Dick Cheney certainly hasn't. In a Jan. 17 interview with NBC, the former vice president praised Obama's decisions to maintain Guantanamo, launch covert air wars in Pakistan



Illustration by Yosuke Michishita

and expand the Patriot Act. The only Republicans I hear opposing the war are those who did so before Hillary Clinton temporarily pretended to.

Increasing the debt more than every president in history combined, Obama has laid out a record-breaking war budget. The candidate for change hasn't let the recession stop him from maintaining expensive military occupations around the world and financially supporting the same repressive regimes that Bush did. He even marked the acceptance of his peace prize with an unashamed defense of war a week after consigning an additional 30,000 soldiers to shed their blood in Afghanistan, where our ongoing military presence has become a recruiting tool for terrorists.

Saying that the President has little real power is a weak excuse. Last year, a Forbes study named Obama the second most powerful man on earth after Hu Jintao. The President can override Congress and issue executive orders, a power that Cornell University Law School describes as "almost limitless." As commander in chief, Obama could wake up tomorrow morning and order a bombing run in Malaysia while having his coffee. The president has the final say in what the military does, and he can end wars with phone calls as surely as he can start them.

Saying that we should trust any secret information Obama may have obtained since his election isn't much better. Many of the people I've heard employ this argument didn't trust Bush's invasion

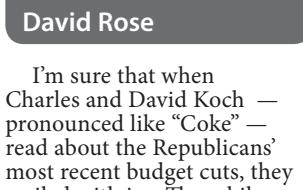
of Iraq any more than I did. Even if you view Obama as infallible, we can't claim to have a representative system of government if the people get the opposite of what they voted for.

Since the administration of Woodrow Wilson, our government has policed the world at the expense of American tax dollars and lives. The founding fathers gave us a military to protect America, not serve as babysitters in 135 countries from Albania to Zimbabwe. Those more concerned with Obama himself than his policies should not discount the many Americans who still want the change they voted for.

Ian Huyett is a sophomore in political science and anthropology. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu

Republican budget cuts do nothing for federal deficit

a bargain at 88 million dollars



David Rose

I'm sure that when Charles and David Koch — pronounced like "Coke" — read about the Republicans' most recent budget cuts, they smiled with joy. These billionaires own Koch Industries of Wichita and have long supported libertarian and conservative political causes.

Both Republicans and Democrats agree that the federal government needs to reduce its spending in order to decrease the deficit, though they differ on implementation. While Obama proposed budget cuts across the board that would end many small and inefficient programs, including those backed by liberals, Republicans in the House passed budget cuts obviously intended to anger Obama and the Democrats and please their Koch overlords.

The Republican plan included cutting funds to the Environmental Protection Agency and other environmental regulations, energy efficiency programs, parts of the recent health care legislation, family planning centers and other areas.

It's almost as if the Republicans were taking their cues right from the Koch brothers who, according to a Aug. 30, 2010 story in The New Yorker magazine, "are longtime libertarians who believe in drastically lower personal and corporate taxes, minimal social services for the needy, and much less oversight of industry — especially environmental regulation."

The Koch brothers' support of these ideas makes perfect sense for the owners of a huge corporation that

would benefit from less regulation. The Republicans, however, don't stand to gain much from these budget cuts until you realize what the Koch brothers have been up to.

Politico.com reported on Feb. 11 that "the billionaire Koch brothers plan to contribute and steer a total of \$88 million to conservative causes during the 2012 election cycle."

That must be a huge incentive for any Republican hoping to run again in 2012 to do just about anything to please the Koch brothers.

Sadly, even with the Republicans' inane budget cuts, the deficit and the national debt will continue to rise. Neither Republicans nor Democrats are willing to talk about the three 800-pound gorillas sitting on the floor of Congress: Social Security, the health insurance

programs — namely Medicare and Medicaid — and defense spending. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities report from April 14, 2010, each of these programs accounts for about 20 percent of the federal budget. Unless the politicians deal with these three sectors, little can be done to curb the deficit.

I'm not necessarily supportive of cutting Social Security, Medicare or Medicaid, but these programs need to be addressed in the long run. While I find the myriad of military programs to be a much easier target for budget cuts, others disagree. In the end, however, ideologies must be put aside before we can ever hope to tackle the three areas of the budget that add up to more than 60 percent of the whole.

In the meantime, the political fight over the budget brings us even closer to a potential crisis. If the government doesn't pass a new budget by March 4, then the whole government will essentially shut down. The government only funds itself through a certain date, after which government employees and programs will stop working.

This is made no easier by the fact that Congress just went on a weeklong break, giving legislators only a few days when they get back to work out a new budget. I doubt they'll let the entire government shut down, though; Democrats and Republicans will either work out a compromise or pass a resolution that continues funding until they get their act together. But having only a few days to work out such a complex problem means the solution will likely be nowhere near ideal. Somewhere, the Koch brothers are laughing.

David Rose is a sophomore in political science and international studies. Please send comments to opinion@spub.ksu.edu

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